# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Billy O'Bryan, : Civil Action No.: 1:13-cv-00170

Plaintiff,

v.

EBSCO TeleServices, LLC,

.

Defendant.

Plaintiff, Billy O'Bryan, by and through his undersigned counsel, states as follows:

**COMPLAINT** 

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. Plaintiff, Billy O'Bryan ("Plaintiff"), brings this action for damages resulting from the illegal actions of EBSCO TeleServices, LLC ("EBSCO" or "Defendant"). Defendant negligently, knowingly, and/or willfully placed telemarketing calls using a prerecorded voice to Plaintiff, in violation of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227, et seq. (the "TCPA").

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331. *Mims v. Arrow Fin. Serv.*, *LLC*, 132 S.Ct. 740, 751-53 (2012).
- 3. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because Plaintiff resides within the District of New Hampshire, a substantial portion of the events or omissions giving rise to the case occurred in this District, and Defendant regularly conducts business in this District.

#### **PARTIES**

4. Plaintiff is, and at all times mentioned herein was, an adult individual residing in

Somersworth, New Hampshire.

- 5. Plaintiff has never had a business relationship with EBSCO and never consented to be contacted by EBSCO on his residential telephone.
- 6. EBSCO is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a Delaware business entity headquartered in Canton, Ohio.

### THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 1991

- 7. 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(B) prohibits "any telephone call to any residential telephone line using an artificial or prerecorded voice to deliver a message without the prior express consent of the called party, unless the call is initiated for emergency purposes".
- 8. In addition, a private right of action for "do not call" violations is conferred upon any person who has received "more than one telephone call within any 12-month period by or on behalf of the same entity in violation of the regulations prescribed" by the FCC. 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5).
- 9. 47 C.F.R. 64.1200(c)(2) provides that "[a] residential telephone subscriber who has registered his or her telephone number on the national do-not-call registry of persons who do not wish to receive telephone solicitations that is maintained by the Federal Government. Such do-not-call registrations must be honored indefinitely, or until the registration is cancelled by the consumer or the telephone number is removed by the database administrator."

# **ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS**

- 10. Plaintiff's residential phone number is on the national "do not call" list.
- 11. Beginning in or around November 2012, Defendant repeatedly placed solicitation calls to Plaintiff's residential telephone.
- 12. Each of the aforementioned calls was placed using an artificial or prerecorded voice, as prohibited by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(B).

- 13. Defendant did not have prior express consent to place solicitation calls using an artificial or prerecorded voice to Plaintiff on his residential telephone.
- 14. Defendant's calls to Plaintiff's residential telephone were not for "emergency purposes."

# Negligent Violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227, et seq.

- 15. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the above paragraphs of this Complaint and incorporates them herein by reference.
- 16. Defendant negligently placed multiple solicitation calls to Plaintiff's residential telephone without his prior express consent.
- 17. Each of the aforementioned calls by Defendant constitutes a negligent violation of the TCPA.
- 18. As a result of Defendant's negligent violations of the TCPA, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages for each call in violation of the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B).
- 19. Additionally, Plaintiff is entitled to and seeks injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct by Defendant in the future.

# COUNT II Knowing and/or Willful Violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227, et seq.

- 20. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the above paragraphs of this Complaint and incorporates them herein by reference.
- 21. Defendant knowingly and/or willfully placed multiple solicitation calls to Plaintiff's residential telephone without his prior express consent.
  - 22. Each of the aforementioned calls by Defendant constitutes a knowing and/or

willful violation of the TCPA.

- 23. As a result of Defendant's knowing and/or willful violations of the TCPA, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of treble damages up to \$1,500.00 for each call in violation of the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C).
- 24. Additionally, Plaintiff is entitled to and seeks injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct by Defendant in the future.

### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that the Court grant Plaintiff the following relief against Defendant:

- 1. Injunctive relief prohibiting such violations of the TCPA by Defendant in the future;
- 2. Statutory damages of \$500.00 for each and every call in violation of the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B);
- 3. Treble damages of up to \$1,500.00 for each and every call in violation of the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C);
- 4. An award of attorney's fees and costs to counsel for Plaintiff; and
- 5. Such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

### TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS

Dated: April 12, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

By: <u>/s/ James D. Kelly</u>

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# Of Counsel to

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